

**Dennis A. Wichern,
Assistant Special Agent In Charge
Indianapolis District Office**

Dennis Wichern was born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1959. He graduated in 1981 from Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, Missouri with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with a minor in Mathematics. While employed as a carpenter, Wichern completed a Masters of Business Administration Degree in 1983 at Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri. In 1987, Wichern joined the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and entered Basic Agent Training Class 48 at Quantico, Virginia.

Upon completion of Basic Agent Training, Wichern was assigned to St. Louis, Missouri where he investigated and dismantled numerous drug organizations with a number of other federal, state and local agencies while specializing in methamphetamine. In one case alone he seized over a million dollars of drug-related assets in addition to the arrest and convictions of its leaders. In 1997, Wichern was promoted to Group Supervisor of the St. Louis, Missouri Airport Interdiction Task Force, a group consistently regarded as one of the best in the country. One of the more spectacular cases led to the complete dismantlement of west coast heroin trafficking organization and the solving of three, formerly unsolved drug related homicides.

In 2001, Wichern was transferred to the Office of Domestic Operations, Dangerous Drugs and Chemicals Section (DOD) at DEA Headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he served as Staff Coordinator overseeing methamphetamine investigations. In 2002, Wichern was promoted to Section Chief of DOD where he managed synthetic and chemical investigations worldwide. Under his leadership, Wichern instituted a successful chemical program with a leading Internet provider along with helping institute DEA's new hazardous waste container program. Wichern was also instrumental in the passage of tougher GHB sentencing guidelines along with assisting the field by simplifying clean-up protocols for seized chemicals and the use of pseudoephedrine in undercover operations. In 2004, Wichern was promoted to the position of Executive Assistant to Deputy Administrator Michele Leonhart where he had the honor and privilege of assisting her in the day-to-day operations of DEA.

In 2005, Wichern was transferred to Indianapolis, Indiana as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge with oversight responsibility for all federal drug enforcement operations in the state of Indiana. He provides direction and supervision for all DEA operations conducted in the state of Indiana and acts as Chairman of the Lake County High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program in the Northern Judicial District of Indiana.

Wichern is married and has two daughters.